

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning on line 13 of the specification as follows:

As known, intermediate image interpolation is required for example in the generation of a 100 Hz image sequence for visualization in a television set from a received 50 Hz image sequence, or in the generation of a slow-motion sequence in which a plurality of intermediate images are generated in temporal succession between two input images. In order to correctly ~~to~~ reproduce motion processes in intermediate image interpolation, it is sufficiently well known to use motion vectors in intermediate image interpolation, one method for estimating such motion vectors is described for example in U.S. Patent 5,386,248.

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning on line 22 and continuing on page 3 of the specification as follows:

FIG. 1 shows schematically a first image and a second image A1, A2 of an input image sequence, which are present in temporal succession and to which there is generated an interpolated intermediate image A12 that, in correspondence to the input images A1, A2, has a plurality of pixels of which one pixel Px is schematically illustrated in FIG 1. Assigned to this pixel is at least one motion vector vec1, which is generated on the basis of the input image sequence. The generation of the motion vector is based on the fact that a moving object B is located at a first position in the first input image A1 at the time of the first input image, and “shifts” to a second position in the second input image A2 by the time the second input image is “photographed”. The motion vector vec1 contains the motion information of this object. Along with the motion vector vec1, the position of the object after the motion is depicted in the input image A1 and the position of the object before the motion is depicted in the input image A2 for clarification. Using the motion vector vec1 and the video information value P0 at the initial point of the vector vec1 in the image A1, or the video information value P1 at the final point of the motion vector vec1 in the image A2, and with allowance for the raster position of the intermediate image A12 relative to the input images A1 and A2, the pixel Px of the intermediate image lying on the motion line of the vector vec1 can be determined.

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 12, beginning on line 22 and continuing on page 13 of the specification as follows:

FIG. 6 shows an apparatus for implementing such a method, the apparatus having an analyzer 26 to which the video information values L0-L3 as well as the intermediate values M1204, M3423 obtained by equal weighting of the video information values L0-L3 are supplied for the determination of the weighting factor k0123.

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 13, beginning on line 3 of the specification as follows:

In a further embodiment of the method according to the invention, provision is made for outputting either the first intermediate value M120 or the second intermediate value M34 as the video information value Lx. FIG. 7 shows an apparatus for implementing such a method, a switch S being provided in a mixer 35 connected subsequently to the mixers 32, 33, the switch being thrown depending on the weighting factor k0123. In this embodiment the weighting factor k0123 assumes the value 0 or 1, the first intermediate value M120 yielding the video information value Lx for a value of 0 and the second intermediate value M34 yielding the video information value Lx of the interpolated pixel for a value of 1 of the weighting factor k0123.

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 13, beginning on line 11 of the specification as follows:

The weighting factor k_{0123} is determined depending on the video information values L_0, L_1, L_2, L_3 , the video information value being set equal to one (1), for example, in order to select the second intermediate value if the second intermediate value M_{3423} lies within the interval specified by $[L_0; L_1]$, and being set equal to zero in order to select the first intermediate value M_{1204} if the second intermediate value M_{3423} lies outside the interval specified by $[L_0; L_1]$.